



DAY 1 **BRIAN GIBBS**

As we sat down as a staff to make plans for this specific fast and talk about what Holy Spirit is saying to us as the Victory family and what our focus/theme would be, my heart gravitated to the “faithfulness” of God. Oh, what a faithful Heavenly Father and loving God we serve.

In the book of Psalms, David writes these beautiful words: “Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday. Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him...” (Psalm 37:3-7a NKJV).

I love this passage of scripture for so many reasons. First of all, I think we can all say with totally certainty – God is worthy of our trust! We can let The Lord lead the way. I want to focus on these key words first, “feed on His faithfulness”. That is so powerful. Faithfulness reveals the nature, character and the very essence of who God is. I think we all understand the importance and value of what and how we feed our soul and spirit. When we feed on the faithfulness of God, we are actively calling to mind where and when God so beautifully and graciously revealed His love, power, provision, favor, joy, healing or miracles over our lives. We go back to remember when...we retrace the steps or the years of our faith journey to remember when Jesus revealed Himself to us. It stands as a testament of His loving faithfulness time and again.

Something that my wife, Bren, and I have done in the thirty years of our marriage is actively call to mind and memory the faithfulness of God in our lives together. We go over the story-line and stories of the greatness of God in our journey, our marriage, our kids, and our ministry. This is one way to feed on the faithfulness of God.

It's important to give thanks and praise in remembrance of God's love and power in our lives. There's a beauty and wonder that the Holy Spirit infuses when we touch those places once again. It brings us to tears of thanksgiving. It stirs up gratitude and cultivates worship with a freshness. We remember – God was with us then, faithfully, and God is with us in the present leading the way and showing His greatness and Lordship over us as His son and daughter. Acknowledging His Lordship and faithfulness is a huge part of all of our personal worship.

David and his mighty men knew what it meant to “feed on God's faithfulness.” David was always keeping the goodness and faithfulness of God before him in his writings throughout the Psalms. He went over it time and again. His memory served him well, recalling the countless times God was there for him – to minister to him, lift him, deliver him, guide him and favor him.

In Psalm 71, David recalls the faithfulness of God in this way: “O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works. Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come” (Psalm 71:17-18).

David is accessing days gone by and reaching back in time to touch the faithfulness and goodness of God. He could see it clearly. That's so important. He never lost sight of it.

David was able to see God's hands of providence throughout his past and exalt Him, giving The Lord all the glory. David acknowledged God's faithfulness in present time recognizing he was older and now gray headed, and it was God's faithfulness that had carried him this far. He possessed a longing and desire to reach into the future and released a generational blessing of the love and faithfulness of God to all those who would come after him. I believe his ability to see and acknowledge God's faithfulness caused him to love and think generationally. The loving kindness of God shaped David, and he knew firsthand the power of the covenant keeping God. David recognized God's faithfulness throughout the scope of his life.

Asaph was from the tribe of Levi and appointed by King David when the ark of the covenant came into Jerusalem to rest upon Zion. He was assigned as a singer and one of the main worship leaders at David's tabernacle/tent of meeting. Asaph grew into a chief musician, prophetic worshiper and a seer in David's army.

In Psalm 77, he wrote these words of worship saying, “I will remember the works of the Lord; I will remember Your wonders of old. I will also meditate on all Your work, and talk of Your deeds. Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary; who is so great a God as our God? You are the God that does wonders; You have declared Your strength, among the peoples”(Psalm 77:11-14 NKJV).

Here we see once again, the key is remembering and keeping the faithfulness of God freshly stirred in our hearts, conversations and worship. Worship is one of the ways that we actively remember and call to mind the faithfulness of God and feed on His faithfulness.

David and his men remembered how far God had brought them and they also knew that His Presence would carry future generations into far greater glory. Together, they have a legacy of pursuit after God’s own heart.

If you and I keep in remembrance all that God has done – keeping it freshly before our hearts and minds, then we too will be able to see what He is actively doing in the present, keeping our “first love” fire burning, and we will walk by faith right into the glorious future we are destined for.

In this fast, my prayer for each of you is that you make more room and create space for quality time with God and let your heart feed on His faithfulness throughout your life. May the Holy Spirit take you to special places, even retracing steps of God’s beauty, power, breakthrough and love in your life. May it cause fresh rivers of gratitude to flow in worship. May it be a feast set before you at the table of Lord.

All relationship must be reciprocal: honor for honor, blessings for blessings, faithfulness for faithfulness. Throughout our faith journey, God proves he can be trusted – always. Great is His faithfulness! Our God and Father is a covenant keeping God. When we feed on His faithfulness, it anchors our hearts to be covenant keepers and faithful unto the Lord with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

The prophet Jeremiah writes of the faithfulness of God in the book of Lamentations this way: “Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘Therefore I hope in Him!’ The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord” (Lamentations 3:22-26 NKJV).

With each new day of this fast, feed on His faithfulness and remember this; The Lord is good to those who wait for Him!

**Love you all.
Pastor Brian**